

From: Ken Howells
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 9:57pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Sirs,

Allowing Microsoft to put more of their systems into schools, where students will only get more used to Microsoft systems and less exposure to alternatives, such as Linux, which I use extensively, is not a punishment for their monopolistic practices at all - it is a reward.

Please find a way to actually disciplin Microsoft for their breach of ethics, and also find ways to force them to allow realistic competition. The fact that computer viruses which only affect Microsoft systems sweep through the internet more and more often, crippling many businesses for hours or days, shows undeniably the folly of having too much of the economic infrastructure relying on one system. Genetic diversity is a powerful defensive weapon in the biological world. Operating system diversity would serve as a similar defense in the digital world.

Best Regards,
Ken Howells
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